

From: John Roop
To: john.ascroft
Date: 1/28/02 11:14am
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

January 28, 2002

Attorney General John Ashcroft
US Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20530

Dear Mr. Ashcroft,

The Department of Justice was absolutely wrong in wanting to slice Microsoft into separate parts. Three years have produced public resentment and gravely hurt the computing industry, all for the benefit of those who won't ever be able to compete with Microsoft. The settlement Microsoft agreed to with the federal government must go forward. It is more than generous, and is obviously better than forcing Microsoft back into court, where the only winners are the attorneys representing both sides of this case.

Microsoft concedes to give up more than enough to promote far more competition among the computer makers and software developers who want a more level playing field. Agreeing to open Windows for further application development, Windows and non-Windows alike, will produce far more innovations than ever before, and will show the consumer that they are not at the whim of this industry giant, creating more individually-based options and configurations.

I urge the Department of Justice to see to it that Microsoft is given unprejudiced consideration by allowing them to return to business NOW. Do not continue to waste the incredible innovation and efforts of Microsoft, by choking them in more court proceedings. They have been the most industrious and prolific business since that of Ford Motors. The ramifications are far reaching, for the better good, by supporting the position of this settlement with Microsoft.

Sincerely,

John